

Priorities of Government

Result Indicators and Related Measures

Result 1: Increase student achievement in elementary, middle, and high schools

Indicators and Measures

1. Reduced gaps in student achievement.

Gap Between All 10th Grade Students' and Low Income Students' WASL* Math and Reading Scores

Description: Indicator 1 is based on student performance on Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL). The WASL is administered each spring to Washington fourth-, seventh- and 10th-graders. The WASL was developed to measure how well students are progressing in meeting state academic standards.

The tests are designed to measure students' progress in meeting critical learning goals that Washington educators have established in each subject area. These academic standards specify what all students should know and be able to do by graduation. These standards are called Essential Academic Learning Requirements, or EALRs. Student progress toward these learning goals is measured by WASL as well as by a variety of other classroom assessments.

Indicator 1 shows the differences in WASL performance between all students and those considered to be economically disadvantaged students, indicated in the chart and in the table as "Low Income." Currently, economically disadvantaged students are those served in Title I programs. Eventually, eligibility for free/reduced-price meals will identify this group. The reporting of WASL scores for the low-income category began with the 2002-03 scores.

Sources:

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (<http://www.k12.wa.us/>)

Washington State School Report Card (<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/default.aspx>)

WASL Detail for Washington State

(<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/Reports/WASLCurrent.aspx?schoolId=1&reportLevel=State>)

Updates: Anticipated September 2004.

2. Improved test scores.

Percent of 10th Graders Meeting WASL* Reading and Math Standards

Description: Indicator 2 is based on student performance on the Washington Assessment of Student Learning (WASL). The WASL is administered each spring to Washington fourth-, seventh- and 10th-graders. The WASL was developed to measure how well students are progressing in meeting state academic standards.

The tests are designed to measure students' progress in meeting critical learning goals that Washington educators have established in each subject area. These academic standards specify what all students should know and be able to do by graduation. These standards are called Essential Academic Learning Requirements, or EALRs. Student progress toward these learning goals is measured by WASL as well as by a variety of other classroom assessments.

Indicator 2 shows percentage of 10th graders meeting WASL Reading and Mathematics standards.

Sources:

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (<http://www.k12.wa.us/>)

Washington State School Report Card (<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/default.aspx>)

WASL Detail for Washington State

(<http://reportcard.ospi.k12.wa.us/Reports/WASLCurrent.aspx?schoolId=1&reportLevel=State>)

Updates: Anticipated September 2004.

3. Increased high school graduation rate.

High School Graduation Rate

Description: Indicator 3 is a measure of the percentage of students entering ninth grade who receive a regular high school diploma on schedule four years later. This "on-time graduation rate" was first calculated for the Class of 2002. The actual rate calculated based upon the data received from school districts indicated that approximately 79 percent of that group graduated on schedule. Many districts did not include students dropping out before their senior year as dropouts, however. According to OSPI, "analysis of the dropout rates from previous years and the level of continuing students in Grade 12 result in an estimated on-time graduation rate of 65.7 percent."

Note: Students receiving IEP or GED diplomas are counted as dropouts in this measure.

Sources:

Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (<http://www.k12.wa.us/>)

Graduation and Dropout Statistics, School Year 2001-02 (<http://www.k12.wa.us/DataAdmin/pubdocs/GradDropout/DG2001-02.pdf>) - footnote 8, page 18

Updates: Data will be updated July 2004.

Result 2: Improve the quality and productivity of the workforce

Indicators and Measures

1. Increased possession of skills and abilities required by employers.

Percent of Employer Demand Met for Trained Workers (for Jobs Not Requiring a Baccalaureate Degree)

Description: Indicator 1 is the ratio of the number of postsecondary workforce students prepared for work compared to the number of job openings. The numerator is the number of individuals leaving community and technical colleges, private career schools, and apprenticeship programs after one year of training who are prepared for work; the denominator is the number of net job openings for workers with one year and up to but less than four years of postsecondary education or training. The data for the numerator comes from the administrative records of the training providers, and the data for the denominator comes from the Employment Security Department. The job-openings estimate is based upon the 10-year trend line in order to even out short-term business cycle effects.

Limitations: There is a lag of about one year between the time of training and the calculation of the indicator because one must wait to determine whether a student has actually exited from training.

Source:

Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board (<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/index.html>)

“Demand, Supply, and Results for Postsecondary Career and Technical Education” (<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/demsup2.pdf>).

Updates: Data for the 2002-03 school year will be available in April 2004.

Percent of Businesses Reporting Difficulty Hiring Skilled Workers

Description: Among employers attempting to hire during the previous 12 months, the percentage that report they had difficulty finding qualified job applicants. The indicator is based upon a statewide random stratified sample of employers responding to the survey question, “In the last 12 months, did your firm/organization have any difficulty finding qualified applicants for any of the jobs you were trying to fill?”

Limitations: The indicator is sensitive to the level of economic activity. Some of the business cycle effects are mitigated by limiting the indicator to employers that are attempting to hire, but some cyclical effects remain. During a recession, employers have less difficulty hiring skilled workers, in part because there are more job seekers attempting to find work. The indicator, therefore, reflects changes in the economy as well as changes in the workforce development system. The survey is administered only every other year.

Source:

Workforce Training and Education Coordinating Board, “Workforce Training Needs and Practices of Washington State Employers” (<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/employer-survey.pdf>)

Updates: Note, new 2003 result: 45%. Data for 2005 will be available in January 2006.

2. Increased employment rate.

Percent of Prime Working Age Population Employed (Ages 25-54)

Description: Percent of 25-64 year olds who are employed either full-time or part-time at the time of the survey.

Source:

Office of Financial Management State Population Survey (<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/sps/index.htm>)

Updates: Next update will be Fall 2004

Percent of state labor force employed

Description: Percent of state labor force employed = Civilian employment / Civilian labor force.

Civilian employment: Civilian workers 16 years and older who (a) did any work at all as paid employees or in their own businesses or profession on their own farm, or worked 15 hours or more as unpaid workers in a family enterprise; or (b) were not working but had jobs or business from which they were temporarily absent because of illness, bad weather, vacation, labor management disputes, personal reasons, etc.

Civilian Labor Force: Civilian individuals who are 16 years old or older and are either employed (see above) or counted as unemployed. The unemployed include all civilians 16 years and over who did not work, but who were available for work (except for temporary illness) and made specific efforts to find a job. Also included as unemployed are those who did not work, but were waiting to be recalled to a job from which they had been laid off; or had a new job to go to.

Limitations: The estimate ignores discouraged workers. That is, those who were so discouraged by the slim chance of finding a job and actually gave up looking for work are counted as not in the labor force and thus excluded from the calculation. Also, the estimate does not show the extent of under-employment; for example, those who wanted to work full-time but could only obtain part-time jobs.

Source:

Washington State Employment Security Department, Labor Market and Economic Analysis

(<http://www.workforceexplorer.com/>)

Unemployment rates data series.

Updates: The employment/unemployment rates are estimated monthly.

3. Increased earnings level.

Washington average annual wage (inflation adjusted)

Description: The Bureau of Economic Analysis provides estimates of wage and salaried employment and total wages paid. The data series have an 18-month lag and are updated to the most recent year possible using the Employment Security Department's ES202 data.

Average wages are calculated by dividing total wages by employment. Average wages in current dollars are translated into constant dollar terms using the IPD index.

Limitations: Wages and employment data/estimates are subject to revisions as more complete source data become available. The implicit price deflator is a national index, which captures a nationwide consumer consumption pattern that is different from the expenditure pattern of Washington residents; the larger the gap between the two, the less accurate the real-dollar estimates become.

Source:

Wage and salary employment and total wages -- U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, Regional Economic Accounts, State and Local Personal Income data series. <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/statelocal.htm>

Covered employment and wages -- Washington State Employment Security Department, Covered Employment and Wages (ES202) data series. <http://www.workforceexplorer.com/cgi/dataanalysis/?PAGEID=94>

Implicit Price Deflator (IPD) for Personal Consumption Expenditures -- U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis, National Income and Product Accounts. <http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/dn/home/gdp.htm>

Updates: Employment and wage data are last updated in April 2003, and will be updated in April/May 2004. The Implicit Price Deflator is updated quarterly.

Result 3: Deliver increased value from post secondary learning

Indicators and Measures

1. Increased percentage of adults completing certificates/degrees.

Number of Degrees and Certificates Granted Each Year as a Percent of Residents Ages 18-25*

Description: This indicator uses the total number of degrees and certificates awarded in a year as the numerator and the population age 18 to 25 lagged five years as the denominator. The count of two-year degrees and certificates includes all awarded by institutions in the public community and technical college system. The count of four-year degrees includes degrees at all levels, baccalaureate and above, awarded by the public four-year higher institution. The prime college-attending age group of 18 to 25 was selected as the population base for this indicator.

Population data are based on OFM's November 2003 state population forecast. Degree and certificate counts are based on the U.S. Department of Education Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), using data provided by the Washington State Higher Education Coordination Board

Sources:

OFM State Population Forecast (<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/stfc/index.htm>)

U.S. Department of Education Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) (<http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds/>)

Higher Education Coordinating Board (<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/>)

Updates: Degree and certificate counts for FY 2004 (the 2003-2004 academic year) will be available in December 2004. An updated forecast of the state population, including annual single year of age estimates, will be released in November 2004.

2. Increased number of students prepared to meet workforce needs.

Gap between projected job demand and supply of workers in "high demand" fields (2-year and 4-year training)

Description: This indicator is a measure of the difference for the annual job demand for workers in selected fields and the supply of workers in those fields who (1) leave community and technical colleges, private career schools, and apprenticeship programs after one year of training who are prepared for work and (2) receive baccalaureate degrees in related disciplines. High demand fields include:

- Computer science/information technology
- Education
- Electronics
- Health
- Engineering and engineering technology

Annual job demand information is obtained from the Employment Security Department. The Workforce Training and Education Coordination Board obtain occupational supply for two-year institutions and other vocational programs from administrative records. Supply for the baccalaureate level is obtained from the Higher Education Coordinating Board

Limitations: There is a lag of about one year between the time of training and the calculation of the indicator because one must wait to determine whether a student has actually exited from training.

Sources:

Workforce Training and Education Coordination Board (<http://www.wtb.wa.gov/>)

Employment Security Department (<http://www.workforceexplorer.com/>)

Higher Education Coordinating Board (<http://www.hecb.wa.gov/>)

Washington State Data Book Table ET 18: Higher Education Degrees Awarded (<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/education/et18.htm>)

Updates: Two-year occupational supply data for the 2002-03 school year will be available in August or September 2004. Comparable supply information for baccalaureate recipients will be available by Fall 2004.

Result 4: Improve the health of Washingtonians

Indicators and Measures

1. Improved index of epidemiological measures (Washington Report Card on Health).

Index of Selected Health Indicators* (Based on Selected Health Indicators* (1999 calendar year =100)

Definition: Indicator 1 is an index combining eight separate health and safety measures: Illness Due to Unsafe Food, Unsafe Water or Poor Hygiene (per 100,000); Injuries and Death -Unintentional Injury (per 100,000); Injuries and Death - Child Abuse and Neglect (per 1,000 children); Injuries and Death - Domestic Violence (per 1,000); Injuries and Death -Violent Crimes (per 1,000); Tobacco Use - Non smokers (percent); Nutrition (percent adults)-biennial; and Drug & Alcohol Use (percent adults)-biennial. Indicator 1 shows the average percentage change across the eight measures from the 1999 index year.

Source:

Calculated from several sources.

2. Individual self-assessment of health.

State citizens who rate their individual health as “good,” “very good,” or “excellent”

Definition: Indicator 2 is based on individual self-reported health status as provided to the Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (BRFSS). Respondents are asked whether they consider their health to be excellent, very good, good, fair, or poor. Indicator 2 shows the percent of respondents who considered their health to be good, very good, or excellent.

Limitation: This measure is a self-reported assessment of health and lacks any objective components.

Source:

U.S. Centers for Disease Control Behavioral Risk Factors Surveillance System (<http://www.cdc.gov/brfss/>)

3. Improved access to health care.

Percent of state population with health insurance*

Definition: Indicator 3 is based on a series of questions from the Washington State Population Survey that ask about specific types of health care coverage including: employer or union sponsored coverage, Medicare, Medicaid and other Medical Assistance Administration programs, military health programs, and types of health coverage purchased individually. Indicator 3 shows the percent of Washington residents who indicated they have at least one type of health insurance coverage.

Limitations: This measure captures the percent of persons in Washington who have health insurance, but access to care is still dependent upon providers accepting the coverage.

Source:

Office of Financial Management State Population Survey (<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/sps/index.htm>)

Result 5: Improve the conditions of vulnerable children and adults

Indicators and Measures

1. Increased percentage living above the poverty line.

Percentage of state population living above poverty level

Description: Indicator 1 is based on poverty rate estimates from the Current Population Survey, a joint project between the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Poverty rates indicate the proportion of the population that is living below an estimated poverty level. The Census Bureau calculates income thresholds that vary by family size and composition. For example, the poverty threshold for a family with two adults and two children was estimated to be \$18,244 in 2002. If a family's total income was less than the threshold, then that family was considered to be in poverty.

Indicator 1 shows the percent of the Washington State population who are living *above* the poverty line. For statistical purposes, the rates reported here represent 3-year averages (i.e. 2002 is an average of 2000, 2001, and 2002 estimates).

Source:

U.S. Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty.html>)

Current Population Survey (<http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/cpsmain.htm>)

Poverty in the United States: 2002 (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/p60-222.pdf>)

Updates: Annually, usually available in the fall.

2. Increased percentage that make progress toward self-sufficiency.

Percent of adults leaving state assistance* who remain off assistance for at least one year

Description: Indicator 2 reports the percentage of clients leaving welfare (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) who remain off assistance for at least one year. This information is reported in the WorkFirst Performance Report on a monthly basis. The data are compiled from the DSHS computer eligibility system (Automated Client Eligibility System (ACES)).

The data reported here represent a 12-month average.

Source:

Department of Social and Health Services (www1.dshs.wa.gov/)

Office of Financial Management (www.ofm.wa.gov)

WorkFirst Performance Report (www.workfirst.wa.gov/statestaff/PerfReport1.pdf)

Updates: January 2005.

Result 6: Improve economic vitality of businesses, and individuals throughout the state

Indicators and Measures

1. Increased percentage of people employed.

Percent of Prime Working Age Population Employed (Ages 25-54)

Description: The Survey covers important attributes of individuals and households and thus allows cross-tabulation of age and labor force and employment status.

Limitations: Small sample size – 0.25 percent of total population – may result in large margins of error for the estimates.

Source:

Washington State Population Survey - Washington State Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division at <http://www.ofm.wa.gov/sps/index.htm>

Updates: The SPS survey is conducted every two years. The next survey will be carried out in Spring 2004.

2. Increased percentage of prosperous individuals.

Median household annual income (adjusted for inflation)

Description: A statistical model is constructed that uses personal income and other socioeconomic data to update the Census' estimates of median household income.

Limitations: The model as a simplified tool to estimate median household income levels may leave out factors that over time evolve into ones important in determining income changes. So, the farther an estimate year is away from the base (Census) year, the less accurate the estimate is.

Source:

Office of Financial Management, Forecasting Division *Median Household Income Estimates by County* (<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/economy/hhinc/index.htm>)

U.S. Census Bureau, Census of Population and Housing, 1990 & 2000 (<http://www.census.gov/>)

Updates: The median household income table is updated annually in September.

Change in the poverty rate

Description: Indicator 2b illustrates how the poverty rate is changing annually. A positive number indicates the poverty rate has increased relative to the previous year, while a negative number represents a decline in the poverty rate.

This data is based on poverty rate estimates from the Current Population Survey, a joint project between the Census Bureau and the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Poverty rates indicate the proportion of the population that is living below an estimated poverty level. The Census Bureau calculates income thresholds that vary by family size and composition. For example, the poverty threshold for a family with two adults and two children was estimated to be \$18,244 in 2002. If a family's total income was less than the threshold, then that family was considered to be in poverty.

Source:

U.S. Census Bureau (<http://www.census.gov/hhes/www/poverty.html>)

Current Population Survey (<http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/cpsmain.htm>)

Poverty in the United States: 2002 (<http://www.census.gov/prod/2003pubs/p60-222.pdf>)

Updates: Annually, usually available in the fall.

3. Increased percentage of profitable businesses.

Cost of doing business in Washington State (Index Measure*, Adjusted for Inflation)

Description: An index for the cost of doing business was constructed by all compensation to employees, indirect business taxes and the cost of energy to business and industry. Compensation of employees and indirect business taxes come from the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis regional gross state product estimates. The energy cost data comes from the U.S. Energy Information Administration.

Compensation of employees includes wages and salaries and supplements to wages and salaries. Supplements to wages and salaries consist of employer contributions for social insurance and other labor income. Indirect business tax is the sum of state and local indirect business taxes, which mainly comprise non-personal property taxes, licenses, non-tax liabilities, and sales and gross receipts taxes, and federal indirect business taxes, which comprises non-tax liabilities and excise taxes on goods and services.

The energy cost data is the annual expenditures on energy by non-residential users. This includes energy expenditures by commercial users, industrial enterprises, transportation and electric utilities.

Limitations: The index does include the cost of non-labor inputs into production like materials and construction.

Source:

Gross state product data is located on the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis's web site at this address:

<http://www.bea.doc.gov/bea/regional/gsp/>

Non-residential energy expenditures can be found on the U.S. Energy Information Administration web site at:

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/states/main_wa.html

Updates: For state GSP data, anticipated in May 2004. For state energy expenditure data, anticipated in September 2004.

Result 7: Improve the mobility of people, goods, information and energy

Indicators and Measures

1. Sufficient capacity to meet demand.

Index of State Energy Prices*

Description: This index is constructed from the composite price of all energy sources consumed in the state.

Limitations: Includes motor gasoline and jet fuel.

Source:

Data on state energy prices can be found on the U.S. Energy Information Administration web site at:

http://www.eia.doe.gov/emeu/states/main_wa.html

Updates: Anticipated in September 2004.

Percent of Households with Internet Connection

Description: The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics conducts a special supplemental survey occasionally that relates to household computers and computer use. This survey is not annual, but has been conducted in 1998, 2000, and 2001. Since 1998, the survey has asked about home computer connections to the Internet. This measure indicates the percentage of Washington homes connected to the Internet in the years reported.

Limitations: This supplemental survey appears not to be annual and may not be continued.

Source:

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistic's computer ownership supplemental surveys can be found at this address:

<http://www.bls.census.gov/cps/computer/computer.htm>.

Updates: Unknown.

2. Minimized delay and down time.

Average Puget Sound Peak Travel Time*

Description: The Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) can capture real time travel times from in-pavement detection systems on eleven important commute routes in the Central Puget Sound Region. This measure shows the cumulative average travel time for the eleven routes in 2001 and 2002. The only two years for which data is available are 2001 and 2002. WSDOT anticipates reporting this data annually.

Limitations: The times are not weighted by the traffic flows on each route. With the exception of the Seattle to Everett and Everett to Seattle commutes, the routes measured are within King County. No other areas of the state are covered.

Source:

Washington State Department of Transportation at: <http://www.wsdot.wa.gov/accountability/peaktime/default.htm>

Updates: Anticipated in May 2004.

3. Fair and reasonable pricing.

Percent Growth in Transportation and Energy Prices* Compared with Household Median Income

Description: The price indices of the transportation and energy components of the Seattle Consumer Price Index are combined to create a single measure of the change in prices of transportation and energy in Seattle. That index is compared to household median income. The chart indicates whether energy and transportation are taking up a larger portion or a smaller portion of household median income over time.

Limitations: The index of energy and transportation prices apply only to the six counties that make up the Seattle Metropolitan Statistical Area, but household median income is for the entire state.

Source:

Washington State household median income: (<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/economy/hhinc/index.htm>)

The Seattle Consumer Price Index and details can be found at: <http://www.bls.gov/cpi/home.htm>.

Updates: Washington State household median income is anticipated in September/October 2004. The Seattle Consumer Price Index is updated bimonthly.

Result 8: Improve the safety of people and property

Indicators and Measures

1. Reduced preventable injury and loss.

Incidence of Property and Violent Crimes per 1,000 Population

Description: The numbers of violent and property and violent crimes are reported by individual police departments throughout the state to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (WASPC) as part of the federal Uniform Crime Reports (UCR) system. WASPC in turn, transmits this data to the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). The FBI developed the reporting standards.

Limitations: Reporting by individual departments is voluntary. The Caseload Forecast Council does statistical adjustment of this data to account for non-reporting.

Sources:

U.S. Federal Bureau of Investigation Uniform Crime Reports (<http://www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm>)

Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs (<http://www.waspc.org/wucrwi/2002/index.shtml>)

Drinking Driver Fatalities per 1 billion vehicle miles traveled

Description: This data is taken from the Fatality Analysis Reporting System (FARS), which was designed by the National Center for Statistics and Analysis (NCSA) of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA). There is a Washington State FARS team, which provides local data to the national FARS system. The team makes use of records from multiple sources.

Sources:

Washington Traffic Safety Commission (<http://www.wtsc.wa.gov/fars.html>)

National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (<http://www-fars.nhtsa.dot.gov/>)

Result 9: Improve the quality of Washington's natural resources

Indicators and Measures

1. Reduced percentage of days with unhealthy air.

Number of days Washington violated air quality standards

Description: Number of days that levels of any of six "criteria" pollutants (carbon monoxide, particulate matter, ozone, sulfur dioxide, lead, and nitrogen dioxide) exceeded standards in any of the 60+ measurement stations within the state. The monitoring network has been established with the intent of determining air quality in areas of the state that has experienced higher levels of air pollution.

Limitations: In addition to the six criteria pollutants, hundreds of other chemicals that are toxic or hazardous enter the atmosphere. Acceptable levels have not been determined and there are no measurement systems in place to monitor the ambient levels of these substances.

Sources:

Department of Ecology Air Quality Program (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/airhome.html>)

1999-2002 Air Quality Data Summary (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/biblio/0402002.html>)

Air Quality Program Overview (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/air/pdfs/AirQualityfinal.pdf>)

Updates: Data summaries are updated annually. Most recent summary (1999-2002) was published January 2004.

2. Improved percentage of water bodies/sources that meet quality standards.

Percentage of Rivers and Streams Rated as Having Good Water Quality

Description: A sample survey allows the estimation of the condition of 98 percent of the streams in the state. Assessments were made of the support of specific uses designated for protection in the Washington State Water Quality Standards (aquatic life and contact recreation, wildlife habitat, fish consumption). Streams classified as "good" fully supported all of the designated activities.

Limitations: Water quality of estuaries is assessed, but not reflected in this indicator. Water quality assessments of lakes in Washington were last done in 2000.

Sources:

Department of Ecology Water Quality Program (<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/wqhome.html>)

2002 Washington State Water Quality Assessment Year Section 305(b) Report

(http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/303d/305b_report/305b-index.html) – updated version of Table 5 was used

1998 Washington State Water Quality Assessment Year Section 305(b) Report

(http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/303d/305b_report/98_305b.pdf)

3. Reduced rate of land converted to urban areas.

Rate of Conversion of Resource Lands to Urban Use

Description: The National Resources Inventory (NRI) is a statistical survey of land use and natural resource conditions and trends on U.S. non-Federal lands. Non-Federal land includes privately owned land, tribal and trust land, and lands controlled by State and local governments. The NRI category of "developed land" varies from that used by some other data collection entities. For the NRI, "developed land" is land that has been permanently removed from the rural land base. The developed land category includes: (a) large tracts of urban and built-up land; (b) small tracts of built-up land, less than 10 acres in size; and (c) land outside of these built-up areas that is in roads, railroads, and associated rights-of-way.

Sources:

Natural Resources Conservation Service (U.S. Department of Agriculture) (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>)

National Resources Inventory (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/NRI/>)

Acreage and Percentage of Non-Federal Land Developed (<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/land/meta/t5846.html>)

Updates: The NRI was conducted every 5 years during the period 1977 through 1997, but currently is in transition to a continuous, or annual, inventory process. State-level data may not be available in the near future.

4. Improved trends in fish stocks and wildlife population.

Salmon and Steelhead stocks rated as "healthy"

Description: In 1992, 435 wild salmon and steelhead stocks were identified during the Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory (SASSI) process. A stock is a group of fish that return to spawn in a given area at the same time. They are for the most part reproductively isolated from other such groups. A "run" of fish may comprise more than one stock, and a stock may comprise several local spawning populations. Healthy stocks are those experiencing production levels consistent with the available habitat and within the natural variations in survival for the stock. Of the 435 stocks, 187 (43 percent) were judged to fall into the "healthy" category. Other categories were "depressed" (28 percent), "critical" (3 percent), "extinct" (1 out of 435 stocks - 0%), and "unknown" (26 percent).

Status ratings for 2002 are draft because they do not yet have tribal agreement.

Note: According to the Salmon Recovery Scorecard, the status changes from 1992-2002 are largely a reflection of changes in methods.

Sources:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/>)

2002 State of the Salmon Report (<http://www.governor.wa.gov/gsro/sosreport/2002/sostext.htm>)

1992 Washington State Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/fish/sassi/sassi.htm>)

Updates: An update is in progress.

Numbers of Washington Wildlife Species Classified as “Endangered”

Description: "Endangered" means any wildlife species native to the state of Washington that is seriously threatened with extinction throughout all or a significant portion of its range within the state. This is one of three categories applied to native wildlife species that have need of protection and/or management to ensure their survival as free-ranging populations in Washington. The process by which a wildlife species is listed as endangered, threatened, or sensitive is described in Washington Administrative Code 232-12-297 (<http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/wac/WAC 232 TITLE/WAC 232 - 12 CHAPTER/WAC 232 - 12 -297.HTM>).

Limitations: This indicator focuses on individual wildlife species, and does not measure activities involved with ecosystem management.

Sources:

Department of Fish and Wildlife (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/>)

Current List of State Endangered Species (<http://wdfw.wa.gov/>)

Washington State Register 98-23-013 (<http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/wsr/1998/98-23/WSR 98-23-013.HTM>)

Washington State Register 99-22-085 Mardon Skipper and Northern Leopard Frog added

(<http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/wsr/1999/99-22/WSR 99-22-085.htm>)

Washington State Register 00-04-017 (<http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/wsr/2000/00-04/WSR 00-04-017.htm>)

Washington State Register 02-11-069 Peregrine Falcon reclassified (<http://www.leg.wa.gov/pub/wsr/2002/02-11/WSR 02-11-069.htm>)

Updates: The Department of Fish and Wildlife updates the current listing at least twice per year. Changes are recorded in the Washington State Register as they occur.

Result 10: Improve cultural and recreational opportunities throughout the state

Indicators and Measures

1. Increased participation.

Per Capita Park Visits

Description: This data series has been calculated using park visit data from the state Parks and Recreation Commission as the numerator (as published in the 2003 Washington State Data Book) and OFM's annual state population estimates as the denominator.

Limitations: These data measure state park visits only, which is appropriate for this application. National park visitation data are also available for parks in Washington.

Sources:

Parks and Recreation Commission (<http://www.parks.wa.gov/>)
 Washington State Data Book – Attendance at Washington State Parks
 (<http://www.ofm.wa.gov/databook/environment/vt02.htm>)

Updates: 2003 park visit data anticipated Summer 2004.

Public Library Service, Circulation Per Capita

Description: This data is from the annual Public Libraries Survey, conducted by the National Center for Education Statistics Federal-State Cooperative System (FSCS) for Public Library Data (<http://nces.ed.gov/surveys/libraries/public.asp>). Per capita and per 1,000 population are based on the total unduplicated population of legal service areas.

Limitations: Library visits per capita may be a more appropriate measure, since public library users frequently use library services without actually checking out materials. Washington's response rate for that measure has sometimes been low, resulting in suppression of data in the published tables.

Sources:

National Center for Education Statistics Public Library Trends Analysis, Fiscal Years 1992-1996
 (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubsearch/pubsinfo.asp?pubid=2001324>)
 2000 Digest of Education Statistics Table 422 (1997 data) (<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d00/tables/PDF/table422.pdf>)
 2001 Digest of Education Statistics Table 425 (1998 data) (<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d01/tables/PDF/table425.pdf>)
 Public Libraries in the United States: Fiscal Year 1999 (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2002/2002308.pdf>)
 2002 Digest of Education Statistics Table 423 (2000 data) (<http://nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/d02/tables/PDF/table423.pdf>)
 Public Libraries in the United States: Fiscal Year 2001 (<http://nces.ed.gov/pubs2003/2003399.pdf>)

Updates: The most recent Digest of Education Statistics was released in June 2003. The most recent publication specifically related to public libraries was also released in June 2003. A release date of June 2004 anticipated.
